

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for remotely accessing caller ID information and
5 messages from a caller ID/answering machine using a wireless device connected
to a combination of wired and wireless networks, the method comprising the
steps of:

establishing a connection from the wireless device to the caller
ID/answering machine;

10 transmitting a request for at least one of the caller ID information and the
messages from the wireless device to the caller ID/answering machine using a
modem of the wireless device and another modem of the caller ID/answering
machine, respectively;

transmitting the at least one of the caller ID information and the messages
15 from the caller ID/answering machine to the wireless device using the other
modem of the caller ID/answering machine and the modem of the wireless
device, in response to the request;

receiving the at least one of the caller ID information and the messages by
the wireless device; and

20 storing at least the caller ID information in the wireless device for
subsequent display, when the caller ID information is received.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of storing the
messages in the wireless device for subsequent playback.

25 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying the
caller ID information on the wireless device, subsequent to a termination of the
connection between the wireless device and the caller ID/answering machine.

30 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of playing back
the messages on the wireless device, subsequent to a termination of the
connection between the wireless device and the caller ID/answering machine.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of playing back the messages on the wireless device, during the connection between the wireless device and the caller ID/answering machine.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
receiving a user input by the wireless device corresponding to a selection of a caller ID entry stored in the wireless device; and
automatically calling an individual corresponding to the caller ID entry.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless device is a cellular phone.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless device is a personal digital assistant (PDA).

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the caller ID information comprises at least one of a time of a call, a date of the call, a name of a caller, and a telephone number of the caller.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the combination of wired and wireless networks comprises a cellular phone network.

11. A system for remotely accessing caller ID information and messages using a combination of wired and wireless networks, the system comprising:

a caller ID/answering machine having a modem for receiving a request for at least one of the caller ID information and the messages and for transmitting the at least one of the caller ID information and the messages in response to the request; and

a wireless device having a modem for transmitting the request and for receiving the at least one of the caller ID information and the messages, and having a memory for storing at least the caller ID information for subsequent display when the caller ID information is received.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the memory of said wireless device further stores the messages for subsequent playback.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein said handheld device further comprises a display for displaying the caller ID information, subsequent to a termination of a connection between the wireless device and the caller ID/answering machine.

14. The system of claim 11, further comprising at least one speaker for playing back the messages, subsequent to a termination of a connection between the wireless device and the caller ID/answering machine.

15. The system of claim 11, further comprising at least one speaker for playing back the messages, during a connection between the wireless device and the caller ID/answering machine.

16. The system of claim 11, wherein said wireless device is adapted to receive a user input corresponding to a selection of a caller ID entry stored in the wireless device and to automatically call an individual corresponding to the caller ID entry.

17. The system of claim 11, wherein the wireless device is a cellular phone.

18. The system of claim 11, wherein the wireless device is a personal digital assistant (PDA).

19. The system of claim 11, wherein the caller ID information comprises at least one of a time of a call, a date of the call, a name of a caller, and a telephone number of the caller.

20. The system of claim 11, wherein the combination of wired and wireless networks comprises a cellular phone network.